

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

By this amendment, claims 1-40 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 41-82 are added. One example of support for the independent claims may be found in Figs. 5 and 7 of the original application. One example of support for the dependent claims may be found in the original claims.

Accordingly, claims 41-82 are pending in the present application.

Summary of the Interview

Applicant and the Applicant's representative thank the Examiner for her time on August 8, 2011 to discuss the application with Applicant's representative.

Applicant's representative explained that one type of graphical user interface employs a menu bar in a designated area of the computer screen, e.g., across the top of the screen as is done in the Apple OS user interface, whereas another approach is to keep menu bars with the application windows, as is exemplified by the Windows® brand operating system user interface. If a user of this latter type of interface switches between two application windows, the user will understand that there is a different menu bar because the user associates the menu bar with the application window. Applicant's representative explained how the claim element's "position is determined independent of a position of a window" and "displaying information associated with a first window in an area that is always visible" differentiate from user interfaces of this latter type.

Applicant's representative explained that the claimed subject matter provides additional visual notice, such as an animation, to alert users to a change of menus in the former type of user interface.

The Examiner stated that she did not know of any art that would read on the presented claims, but suggested that a further search would be in order.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9-14, 16-25 and 27-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Robertson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,909,443, hereinafter "Robertson"). The rejection is moot as these claims have been cancelled. For at least the reasons discussed above, new claims 41-82 are submitted to be patentably distinct from Robertson.

Conclusion

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of present application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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